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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,912	04/15/2004	Kotaro Kashiwa	450100-05012	7331

7590 07/20/2009
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EXAMINER

CHIO, TAT CHI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/20/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/824,912	KASHIWA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TAT CHIO	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2009.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 29-36 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 29-36 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/18/2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 29-36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 29, 30, 33, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voltz et al. (US 6,504,577 B1) in view of Chargin, Jr. et al. (5,497,244) and Leroux et al. (5,598,223).

Consider claims 29 and 33, Voltz teaches an apparatus for processing video signals, comprising: a video decomposition section, which accepts an input composite

video signal comprising a sequence of frames, each frame comprising an even field and an odd field (150 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 3), acquires a first reproduction output video signal comprising a sequence of frames, each frame comprising an even field and odd field, each odd field of the first output signal being same as the odd field of the input signal, and the even field in the first output signal being generated by copying data of the odd field of the same frame in the first output signal (Fig. 6A and Fig. 6B, and col. 13, lines 27-52, col. 9, lines 11-30 and col. 9, lines 41-50), and acquires a second reproduction output video signal comprising a sequence of frames, each frame comprising an even field and an odd field, each even field of the second output signal being same as the even field of the output signal, and the odd field in the second output signal being generated by copying data of the even field of the same frame in the second output signal (Fig. 6A and Fig. 6B, col. 13, lines 27-52, col. 9, lines 11-30 and col. 9, lines 41-50). However, Voltz does not explicitly teach copying data of the odd/even field of the same frame in the first/second output signal.

Chargin, Jr. teaches copying data of the odd/even field of the same frame in the first/second output signal (col. 4, lines 24-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to copy data of the odd/even field of the same frame to efficiently compress the data.

However, Voltz and Chargin, Jr. do not explicitly teach the input signal that synchronizes with the corresponding odd field of the first output signal and the input signal that synchronizes with the corresponding even field of the second output signal.

Leroux teaches the input signal that synchronizes with the corresponding odd field of the first output signal and the input signal that synchronizes with the corresponding even field of the second output signal (col. 5, lines 14-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the input signal that synchronizes with the corresponding odd/even field of the first/second output signal to make data from the odd-numbered and even-numbered fields available in digital form in synchronization with the input video signal.

Consider claims 30 and 34, Voltz and Chargin Jr. teach the apparatus comprising an interpolation section, wherein each of a first frame and a second frame comprises an even field and an odd field (col. 13, lines 27-52), wherein the interpolation section uses interpolation to provide an odd field that is added to the first frame and an even field that is added to the second frame (Fig. 6A and Fig. 6B).

3. Claims 31, 32, 35, and 36 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Voltz et al. (US 6,504,577 B1) in view of Chargin, Jr. et al. (5,497,244) and Leroux et al. (5,598,223) as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Watanabe (6,002,835).

Consider claim 31, Voltz and Chargin Jr. teach all the limitations in claim 29 but do not explicitly teach the apparatus comprising a decompression section coupled to the video decomposition section, wherein the decompression section accepts an input compressed composite video signal and provides, uncompressed, the composite video signal input to the video decomposition section.

Watanabe teaches the apparatus comprising a decompression section coupled to the video decomposition section, wherein the decompression section accepts an input compressed composite video signal and provides, uncompressed, the composite video signal input to the video decomposition section (34 of Fig. 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to decompress the compressed video signal to reproduce the video signal on a display.

Consider claim 32, Watanabe further teaches the apparatus comprising: a recording medium (2 of Fig. 4); and a reader coupled to the decompression section and configured to read from the recording medium, the reader acquiring the compressed composite video signal from the recording medium (31 of Fig. 4).

Consider claim 35, Watanabe further teaches the method further comprising accepting an input compressed composite video signal (Fig. 4); and decompressing the input compressed composite video signal (Fig. 4).

Consider claim 36, Watanabe further teaches the method further comprising acquiring an input compressed composite video signal from a recording medium (Fig.4).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAT CHIO whose telephone number is (571)272-9563. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Q. Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. C. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/HUY T NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621